

## Message Text

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S/P:WLORD (DRAFT)

NSC:RSOLOMON (DRAFT)

CU:LSTULL

EA:AWHUMMEL, JR.

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O R 092345Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 223224

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL, CH

SUBJECT: US PRC CULTURAL EXCHANGES: LINGUIST DELEGATION

1. CSC HELD EMERGENCY CONFERENCE TODAY (OCTOBER 9) AND AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL IF USG COULD TAKE UP MATTER OF MOTE'S VISA CANCELLATION ON GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL. ACCORDING TO CSC, IF THERE IS NO HOPE OF SOLUTION TO PROBLEM, DELEGATION WILL BE DISBANDED SOME TIME THIS COMING WEEKEND, AND IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO RE-ASSEMBLE AGAIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

2. THE DEPARTMENT THEREFORE CONCURS WITH USLO'S SUGGESTION THAT IT SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH MFA TO EXPRESS REGRET OVER SUDDEN CANCELLATION OF MOTE'S VISA AND TO MAKE POINTS ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

A. IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THIS ACTION IS UNPRECEDENTED IN SINO-US GOVERNMENT-FACILITATED EXCHANGES  
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AND IT WILL INEVITABLY SPARK SPECULATION AMONG THE PRESS

AND OTHER OBSERVERS WHO WILL READ INTO IT FAR MORE THAN IT MERITS. THE ACTION IS PARTICULARLY UNFORTUNATE AS THE NAME LISTS WERE PROVIDED SOME TIME AGO (IN JUNE) AND A VISA FOR MR. MOTE WAS ISSUED TO HIM IN SEPTEMBER. GIVEN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE FACTS IN THIS CASE, THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION BELIEVE THAT AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE

THEY SHOULD MAINTAIN UNITY. THIS IS A POSITION WHICH WE CAN UNDERSTAND.

B. THE USG IS DISTURBED THAT WHEN THE COMMITTEE FOR SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION RECEIVED THE BELATED CHINESE DECISION TO CANCEL MOTE'S VISA, THE PRCSO REFUSED EVEN TO TRANSMIT THE CSC'S URGENT MESSAGE ON THIS MATTER TO THE AUTHORITIES IN PEKING. THIS REFUSAL IS NOT IN KEEPING WITH THE AGREEMENT OF BOTH SIDES TO FACILITATE EXCHANGES. WE CONTINUE TO HAVE THE UTMOST CONFIDENCE IN THE CSC'S MANAGEMENT OF THE FACILITATED EXCHANGE PROGRAM. PROFESSOR MOTE HAS BEEN A RESPECTED SCHOLAR IN THE UNITED STATES FOR MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS, AND THE USG IS CONFIDENT THAT HE AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION WILL CONDUCT THEMSELVES IN A RESPONSIBLE WAY DURING THEIR TRIP TO CHINA.

C. IN ADDITION TO THE SPECULATION WHICH WILL ARISE, THE CHINESE DECISION WILL ALSO CAUSE CONSIDERABLE INCONVENIENCE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION. THE GROUP HAS ALREADY GATHERED FOR DEPARTURE AND ONE MEMBER HAS GONE TO JAPAN WITH THE EXPECTATION OF AN IMMINENT DEPARTURE TO PEKING. CONSEQUENTLY, WE HOPE THAT IN ORDER TO AVOID UNNECESSARY DIFFICULTIES THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED WILL URGENTLY RECONSIDER THIS MATTER.

3. FOLLOWING INFORMATION GIVEN BY MOTE TO CSC  
PROVIDED FYI: MOTE SERVED IN OSS DURING WAR (DATES NOT PRECISE), APPARENTLY TOOK DISCHARGE IN CHINA WHERE HE BECAME UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AT NANKING UNIVERSITY, AND THEN GOT FULBRIGHT GRANT IN PEKING 1948. HE LEFT PEKING 1 MAY 1950 PRESUMABLY EN ROUTE USA. HIS OSS DUTIES DEALT CHIEFLY WITH WAR AGAINST JAPANESE AND SOMETIMES CONFIDENTIAL

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WITH GERMAN AND OTHER FOREIGN NATIONALS IN CHINA. AT SOME TIME IN 1945 USG ASKED HIM TO VERIFY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF SOME FRENCH NUNS IN PEKING AREA WHICH WAS THEN HELD BY COMMUNIST MILITARY FORCES. MOTE WAS ESCORTED TO NUNS' RESIDENCE BY COMMUNIST OFFICIALS, HAD TEA WITH NUNS AND RETURNED WITH COMMUNIST ESCORT WITH NO DIFFICULTY. IN 1949 A CHINESE NEWSPAPER (PRESUMABLY IN PEKING) DUG UP THIS INCIDENT AND ALLEGED THAT MOTE HAD

SMUGGLED RADIO EQUIPMENT TO NUNS. MOTE SAW REPORT AND WENT TO LOCAL POLICE STATION TO COMPLAIN AGAINST UNTRUE ACCUSATION. HE OFFERED TO "TESTIFY" AGAINST ALLEGATION, BUT POLICE OFFICER IN CHARGE SAID ACCUSATION WAS UN-IMPORTANT, AND TOLD MOTE NOT TO WORRY, THERE WAS NOTHING MORE HE SHOULD DO. THIS IS ONLY INCIDENT MOTE CAN RECALL WHICH MIGHT FORM BASE OF COMMUNIST OBJECTIONS NOW.

DURING WAR HE HAD ENTERED "LIBERATED AREAS" ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS, ALWAYS WITH COMMUNIST PERMISSION AND NEVER WITH ANY INCIDENT.

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